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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/513,117	02/25/2000	Keisuke Yamato-Shi	35.C14302	6628

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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

HODGES, MATTHEW P

[REDACTED] ART UNIT [REDACTED] PAPER NUMBER

2879

DATE MAILED: 09/11/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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EXAMINER

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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Miscelaneous Letter

This communication is in response to the preliminary amendment filed on 6/13/2002.

The preliminary amendment, Amendment B, filed on 6/13/2002 is not entered because entry of the amendment would unduly interfere with the preparation of the Office action. See 37 CFR 1.115(b). The examiner spent a significant amount of time on the preparation of an Office action before the preliminary amendment was received. On the date of receipt of the amendment, the examiner had completed integration of amended claims and the updated search of the amended claims.

Furthermore, entry of the preliminary amendment would require significant additional time on the preparation of the Office action. Specifically, entry of the preliminary amendment would require the examiner to significantly expand the bounds of the search to account for broader claims.

The file record indicates that a notice of allowance was mailed 3/11/02. A Request for Continued Examination was filed with the office on 5/10/02. This request was filed along with a preliminary amendment, Amendment A, on the same date. At that time no request was made for a suspension in prosecution under 37 CFR 1.103(a). The examiner began examination of the case again on 6/12/02 at which time the amended claims, from amendment A, were entered and the search was completed on the merits of those amended claims. The examiner began writing the office action on 6/14/02 and subsequently mailed the second allowance on 6/17/02.

A responsive reply (under 37 CFR 1.111 or 37 CFR 1.113 as appropriate) to this Office action must be timely filed to avoid abandonment.

If this is not a final Office action, applicant may wish to resubmit the amendment along with a responsive reply under 37 CFR 1.111 to ensure proper entry of the amendment.



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